



Linda Fawcett, Director  
Lindsey Jordan, Adm. Asst.  
Sue Adkins, Adm. Asst.  
Email: [pcv@grandtraverse.org](mailto:pcv@grandtraverse.org)



*Please join us,  
in Celebration of Judge David L. Stowe*



In recognition of Judge Stowe and his  
service to our court and community, the staff  
of Grand Traverse County Probate & Family  
Court would like to invite you to an event in  
his honor

***Tuesday, November 20, 2012***

***5-8 p.m.***

***The Hagerty Center***



Please RSVP to [probate@grandtraverse.org](mailto:probate@grandtraverse.org) or to  
922-6862:

Reservations will need to be made by Nov. 9th  
Tickets are \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple

If you need any assistance with your reservation,  
please call our office at 922-4827.





### November:

Betty Leach  
Jeanne Fedorinchik  
Wes Nelson  
Andrea Field  
Roy Bernier  
Frances Butler  
Linda Dittmer  
Shelley Burns  
Ronald O'Brien  
Susan Paul  
Carla Bloom  
Erica Canfield  
John Nink  
Amanda Atwood  
Ahsley Ascione  
Katie Dockery  
Kelsey Minor

### December:

Susan Schmidt  
Donna Burnside  
Nancy Winogrodzki  
Sharon Rosema  
Marla Hoekwater  
Carla Hickman  
Thad Saur  
Laura Alanson  
Sherri Vezina  
Tate Stewart  
Shenandoah Chefalo  
Holli Wolf  
Natalie Terrell  
Trisha Pheasant  
Michelle Rajala  
Emily Shaw

Two copies of the book, One Kid at a Time, "a story of a single dad, a boy in foster care and an adoption" are now available for checkout at our Volunteer Services Library.

**Ask for a bookmark, while supplies last!**

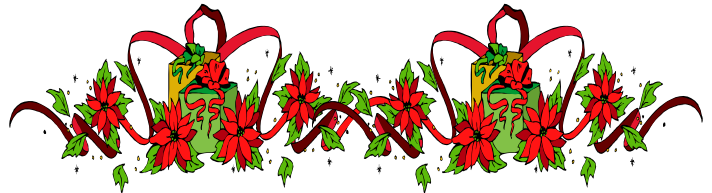
Congratulations!



Congratulations, Barbara Donaldson, Senior Probation Officer, for being selected Humanitarian of the Year 2012 by Child & Family Services. We are proud of Barb who will be awarded this honor, November 1st, at Child & Family's annual meeting at the Hagerty Center.

## Thoughts & Prayers

We are saddened by the passing of our good friend, Russ Wright this past month. Russ wore many hats with our Volunteer Services. He was a probation monitor, school escort, citizen's panel member and guardian. We will remember him as one who asked, "What do you need" to be done and would be ready to help. We miss him already.



## Truancy News!

We wish farewell to Truancy Coordinator, Kathy Keaton as she enters retirement. She will be greatly missed by all of us and we hope she visits often.

We would like to introduce Heather Prevo who recently accepted Kathy's position. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's of Arts degree in Counseling and has had varied experiences working with youth in schools.

She and her husband, Pat have been married for five years and between them have two beautiful kids. She and Pat enjoy everything baseball, especially Tigers baseball! They like fishing, camping, and going out for dinner.

Welcome, Heather

**\*\*\* We are in need of tutors for middle and high school students, all subjects. If you are interested in this, please give our office a call at 922-4827.**





Dr. Sander Weckstein will again present on a variety of topics during the 11th Annual Teacher and Parent Education Series. He is a board certified child, adolescent and general psychiatrist.

For our **November 6th meeting of Learning Partners** we'll go off-site to hear Dr. Weckstein present on ADHD in children and adolescents. Please meet at the Central High School library/media center at 6:15 p.m.

Please be sure to vote earlier in the day, as this in-service is expected to last until 8:00 p.m. Contact the office at, 922-4827 with any questions.

Dr. Weckstein will also be presenting February 12th on Anxiety in Children/Adolescents and March 12th on Autism Spectrum Disorder.

***Thank You!***

### **Welcome New Volunteers**

Volunteer Services conducted a general orientation for new volunteers the first part of October. The three evening classes reviewed and highlighted programs and opportunities provided by Volunteer Services. Thank you Jim & Val Doman, Ruth Bay and Geoff Reddy, for speaking about their roles. Thanks also to Barb Cross, Maple Clinic, who talked about communication with kids and families.

We would like to welcome the following people to Probate and family Court Volunteer Services:

**Linda Dittmer  
Matt Dohm  
Bea Edmonds  
Helen Knapp  
Eillen Mitchell**

**Geoff Reddy  
Emily Shaw  
Catherine Simons  
Tate Stewart  
Renee Stout**

**Attention all Guardians and Interested Persons!**

## ***Guardianship Meeting Thursday, November 8th***

Guest Speaker:

**Jane Dinnen, Director of Advance Care Planning, for Munson Medical Center.** Jane has new information to share regarding (4) new Ethics Consultants they now have in service and she will answer any questions you may have.

**Shar Fay, Probate Register, for Grand Traverse County,** will do a presentation on Annual Accounting for those who are guardians for estates or conservators.

A light dinner from ***Rolling Farms Café*** will be served.

**R.S.V.P. by Friday, November 2,  
to our office at 922-4827.**

**Please join us for some food, information  
and conversation - a great time to  
reconnect.**

**Thank you!**



A new CASA training will begin this winter, stay tuned for dates.

No Meeting in Nov. in lieu of Conference  
Nov.2-3 and Adoption Day, Nov. 20th.

On December 18-Maswe Hennrick and Sherri Vezina will be presenting on behalf of the Grand Traverse Band Community outreach program.

**We'll have fun and Christmas Cheer and  
make a plan for the New year!**



## **Local Holiday Need Programs** **2012**

-Goodwill Inn Food Drive, Street Outreach Program and Community Wish List. Please visit [www.goodwillnmi.org/donate](http://www.goodwillnmi.org/donate) for dates and info.

-Saturday, November 10, 2012– Shop Your Community Day, downtown Traverse City. Do all of your holiday shopping downtown and get 15% of your total purchase donated to the charity of your choice.

-Father Fred: Sign up starts the beginning of November for Family Support.

-Salvation Army: Call 946-4644 to help a family in need this holiday season.

### **Tips for Coping** **with** **Holiday Grief**

The holidays can be a difficult time for those dealing with loss. Often times people are caught in the middle of needing to grieve and pressure to get into the spirit of the season. Below are a few tips to help cope.

- Plan ahead as to where and how you will spend your time during the holidays, it is ok to scale back on activities and traditions during this transition year.
- Give yourself permission to express your feelings, cry if you need to cry, tears are healing.
- Visiting the memorial site, playing music that is comforting and meaningful to you, giving money to your loved ones favorite charity or reading a book or article on grief can all be helpful ways to overcome grief during the holiday season.

## **New Vision Academy** **Summer 2012**

This year's installment of New Vision Academy included an important session for our youth to learn and experience the benefits and ease of using BATA. One identified difficulty for youth on probation is getting to where they need to be. Through an in-class session, students learned how to read the BATA Cherriot bus maps and schedules. They then worked together to identify and plan the logistics for a trip to Northwestern Michigan College. Students discussed which stops to go to, what times they needed to be there in order to arrive at the destination on time, and even which side of the road to be on depending on the direction one desires to travel.

On August 6th, students put this plan into action and made a successful trip to NMC and back, utilizing the Cherriot bus system. The hope is that students will become familiar with our public transit system and make use of it, promoting confidence, autonomy, and a deeper connection to their community. One student took extra measures to assist an elderly traveler by putting the extra bus seat into place as our group had taken all of the available seating.

Volunteer Services is grateful to all of the volunteers and facilitators who make New Vision Academy a success, and we look forward to working with you again next year. If you or someone you know has an idea or skill to share with these unique students, please call the office.



# GRAND TRAVERSE AREA LITERACY COUNCIL



Well, it is Fall already and time is racing toward the holiday season.

GTALC has been racing a bit as well. We are well into our effort to attract and recruit new adult non-readers. Our outreach efforts are being coordinated by a GTALC committee, aptly named....the Outreach Committee.

Its members include Mary and Jerry DeGrazia, Denny Everett, Donna Miller, Linda Frank and me. Our task is to identify likely organizations, and arrange for outreach meetings with the people in the organizations who directly work with their clientele.

Several agencies have been contacted and meetings set to spread awareness of and need for delivery of literacy skills. The clients of many of these agencies are indeed non/low skill level readers....our target population.

Our tutor trainer, Mary DeGrazia, has developed a list of hallmarks of non/low skill readers. Please go to GTALC's web site, [www.gtalc.org](http://www.gtalc.org), to read or copy this list. The list is also being provided to the agencies we've targeted for reaching potential clientele.

A new ally in our outreach efforts is the accounting firm Plante & Moran, PLLC. Some months ago I was contracted by a P & M representative from downstate inquiring about GTALC's mission and subsequently we were put into contact with two members of the Traverse City P & M staff, Ginny Bilacic, CPA and Kacie SanMiguel. We are now working out an outreach plan largely sponsored by Plante Moran's Traverse City office which should aid in our efforts to contact new clients. Hats off to Plante & Moran.

Once again GTALC will participate in the Children's Book Fair which is held on Saturday, November 10 at the City Opera House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year we will be joined as beneficiaries by Read Aloud. Between these two reading support agencies we cover the reading waterfront! Come shop for children's books and meet our representatives.

Another aspect of the upcoming season...a season of giving (hint, hint) is GTALC's annual holiday fund drive. You will be contacted in late November via mail with our annual request for support. If you are not sure you are on our mailing list feel free to call (231)922-4574 or email us at [gtalc22@gmail.com](mailto:gtalc22@gmail.com) with your contact information.

We bid farewell to Jill Porter, our Traverse Area District Library representative who has accepted additional responsibilities of sufficient magnitude she finds it necessary to step down from the GTALC's Board. During Jill's tenure significant new ties have been forged between TADL and GTALC, including creation of a new collection for adult new readers and a blending of GTALC's own reading materials and tutor guide materials with TADL's. Jill also supported and facilitated our recent recognition of tutors at the library.

Being a thoughtful board member, Jill also provided us with a recommendation for her replacement on the Board. At this month's board meeting Brice Bush, resource librarian at the library, has joined the GTALC Board as TADL's representative.

Regards,

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Dick Thompson, President





**VOLUNTEERS IN  
PREVENTION/PROBATION**

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
DAVID L. STOWE, PROBATE & FAMILY COURT JUDGE  
280 Washington St, Suite B 150, Traverse City, MI 49684  
922-4827

PRE-SORT STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684  
PERMIT NO. 229

**Return Service Requested**

**\* All meetings are held at the Volunteer  
Services office unless otherwise mentioned.**

**LEARNING PARTNERS**

1st Tuesday—4:00—5:00 pm

Tuesday, Nov. 6th— Off Site  
see pg. 3

Tuesday, Dec. 4th



**CASA (Court Appointed Special  
Advocate)**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Tuesday, Nov. 20th—No Meeting  
Tuesday, Dec. 18th—See Pg. 3



**LITERACY COUNCIL**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 6:00 pm  
Traverse Area District Library

Wednesday, Nov. 21st  
Wednesday, Dec. 19th



**Our office will be closed on:**

Monday, Nov. 12  
Thursday, Nov. 22  
Friday, Nov. 23

Monday, Dec. 24  
Tuesday, Dec. 25  
Monday, Dec. 31

**Festival Of Trees**

November 8-11, 2012  
Hagerty Center

For more info. visit—  
[www.zontacluboftraversecity.org](http://www.zontacluboftraversecity.org)

